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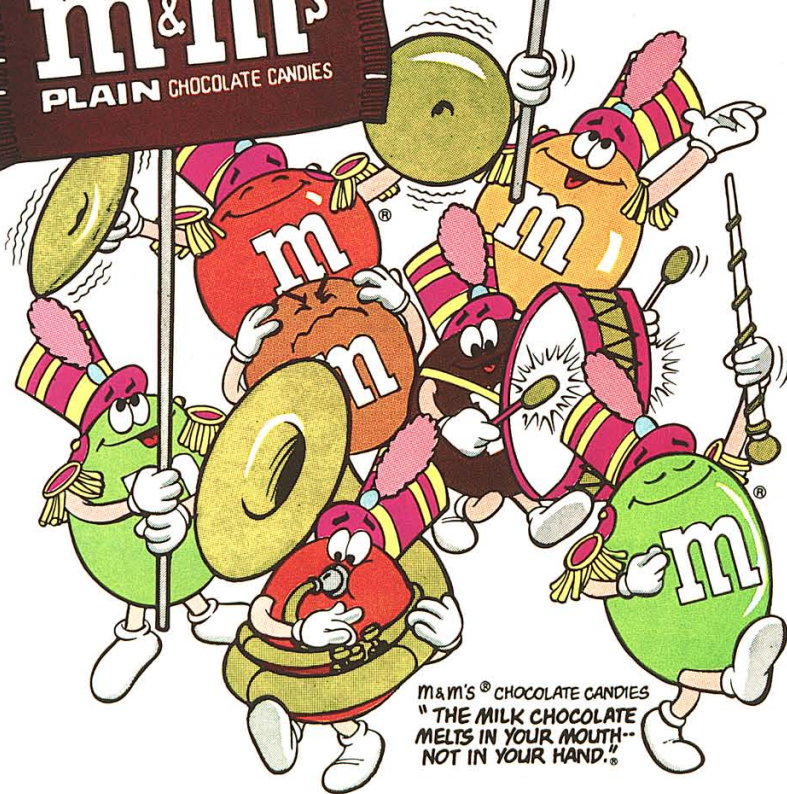
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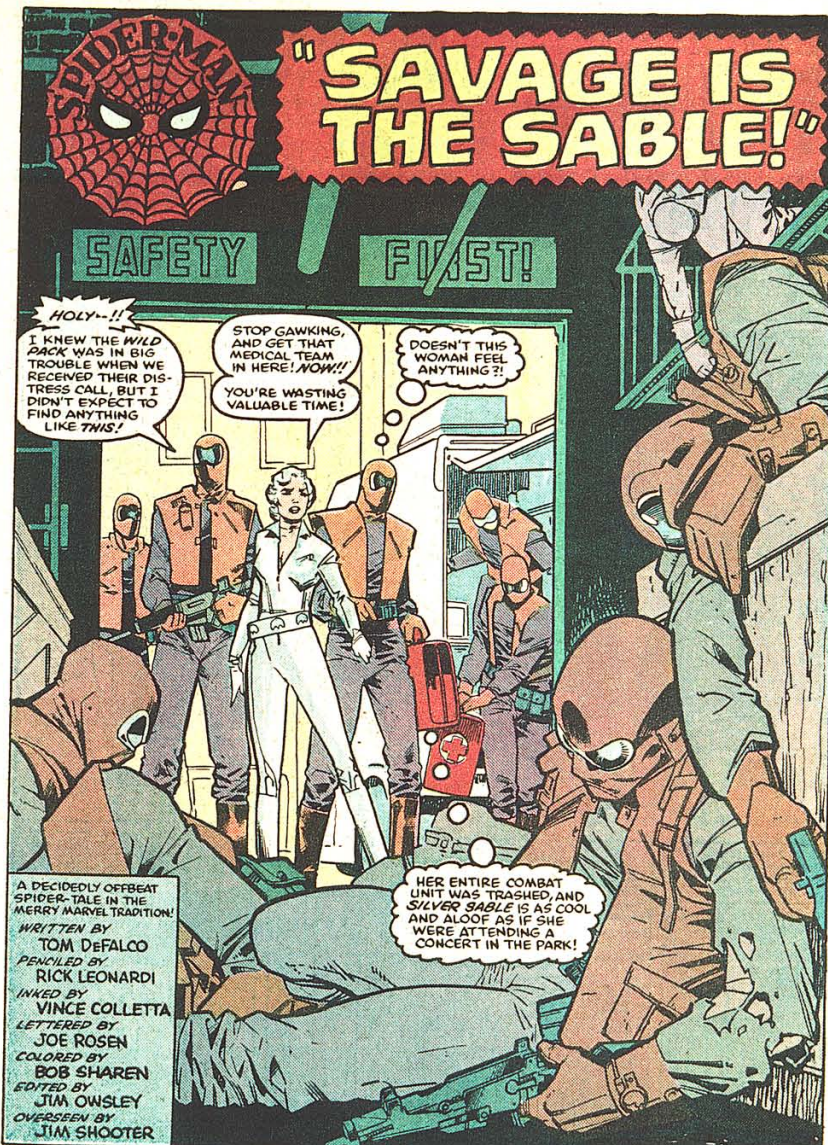
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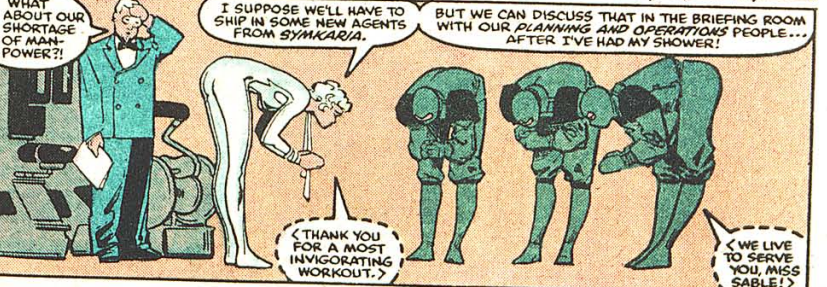
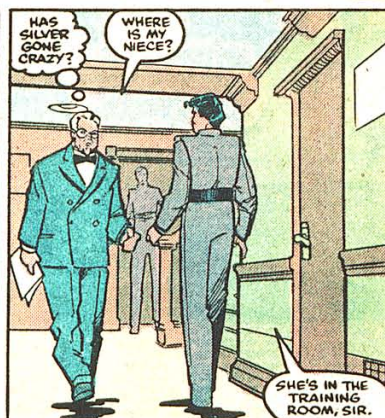
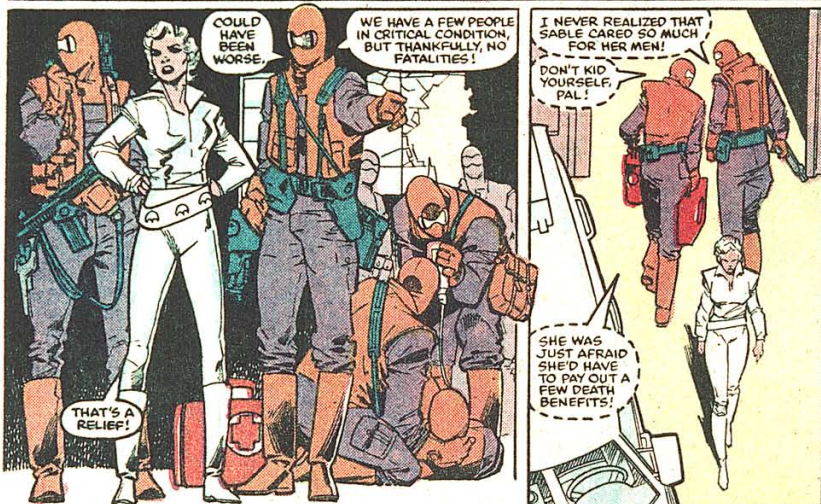
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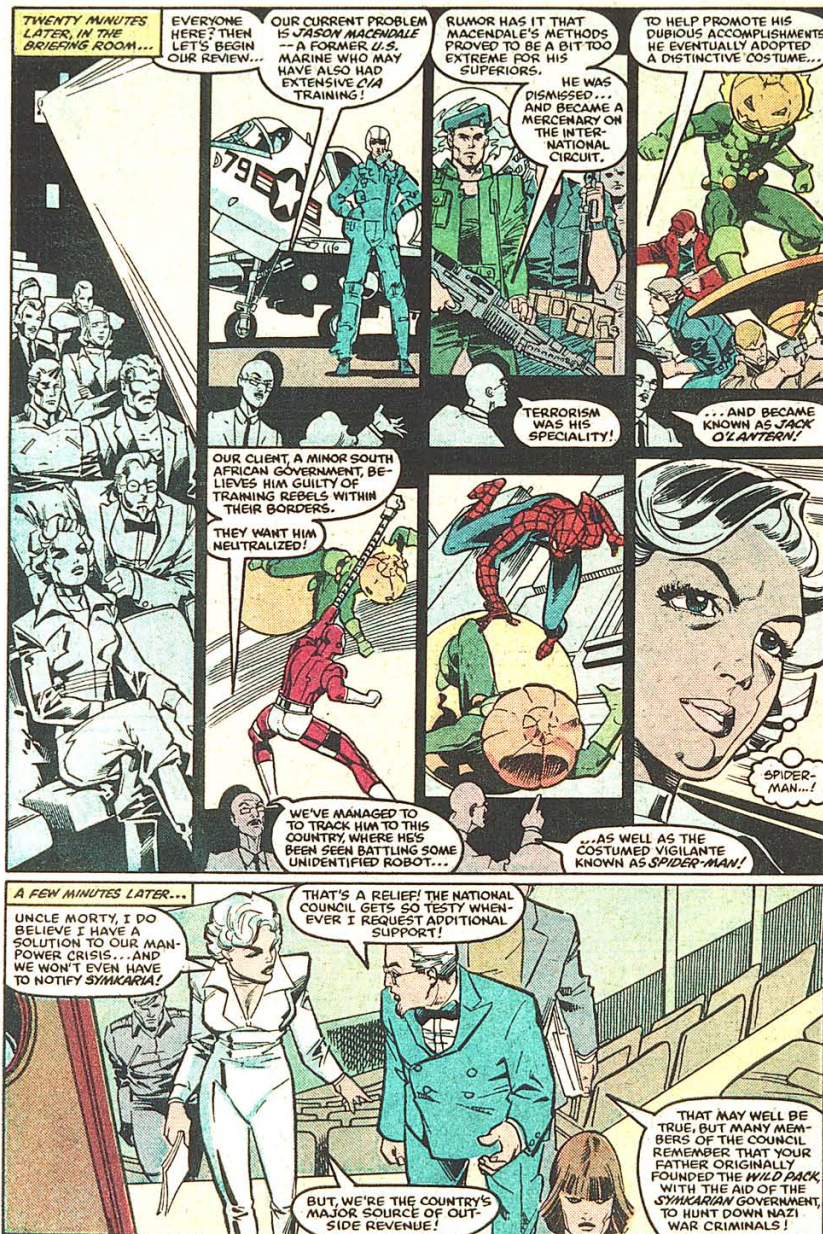


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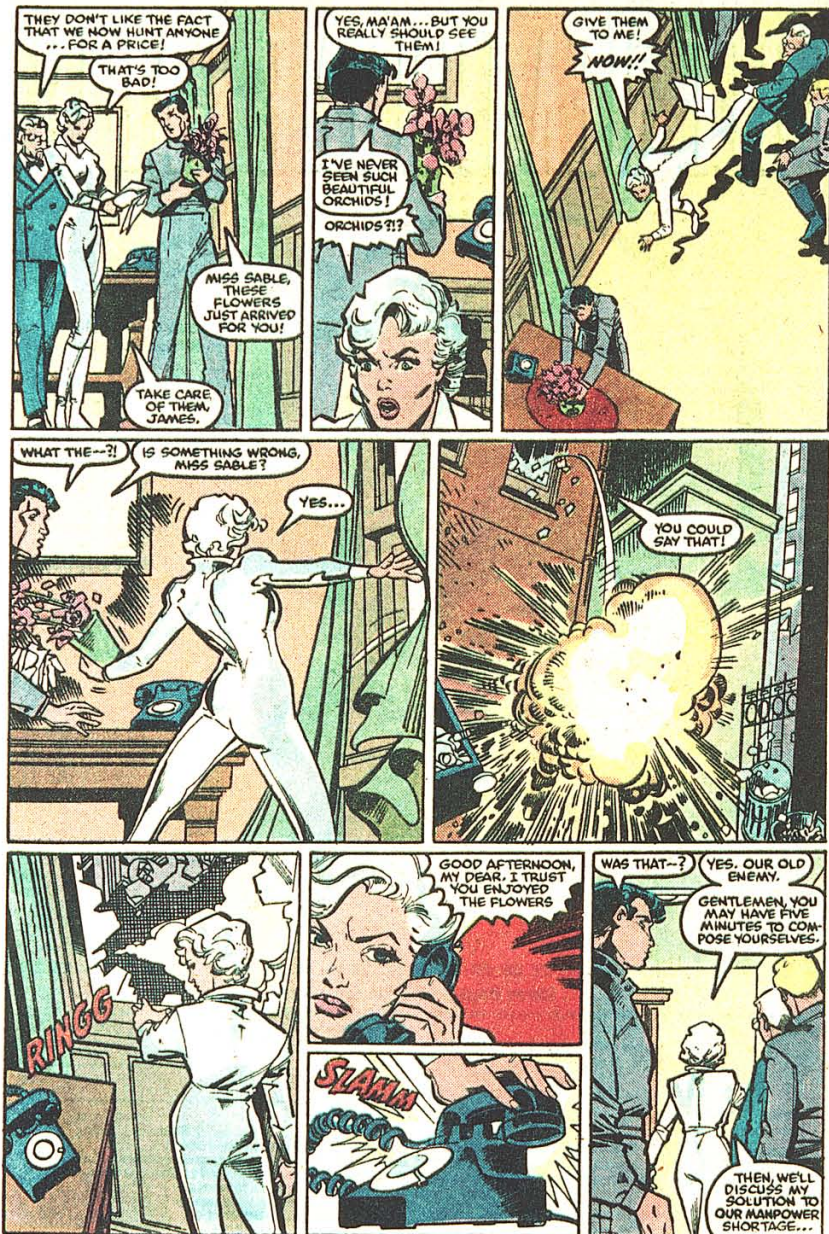
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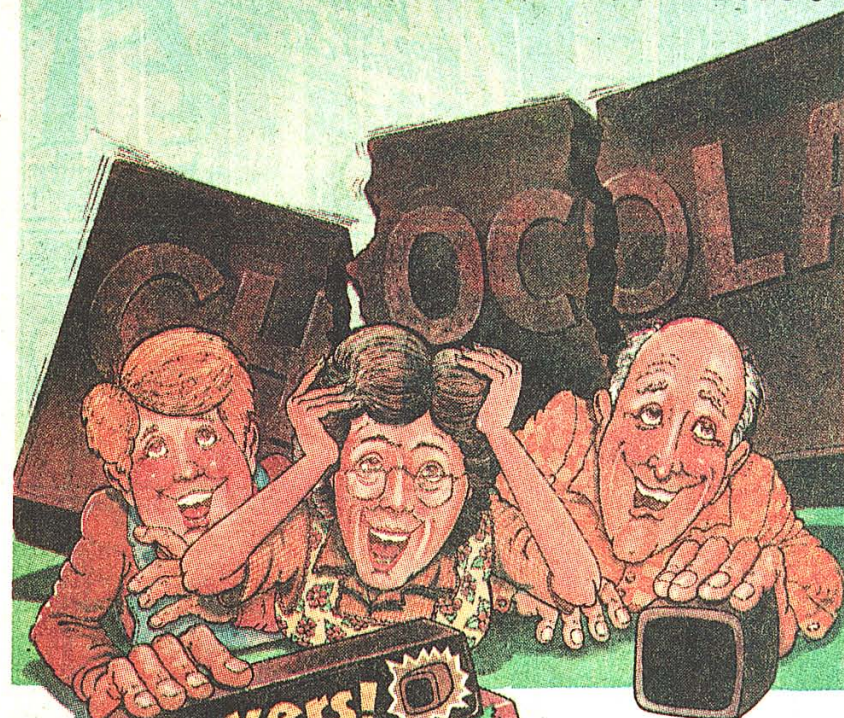
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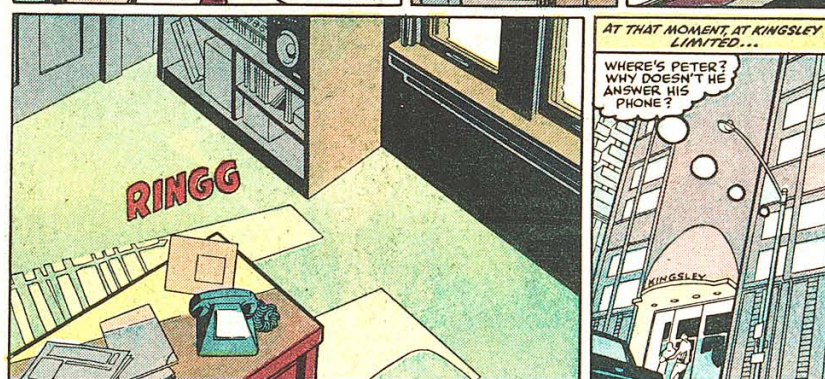
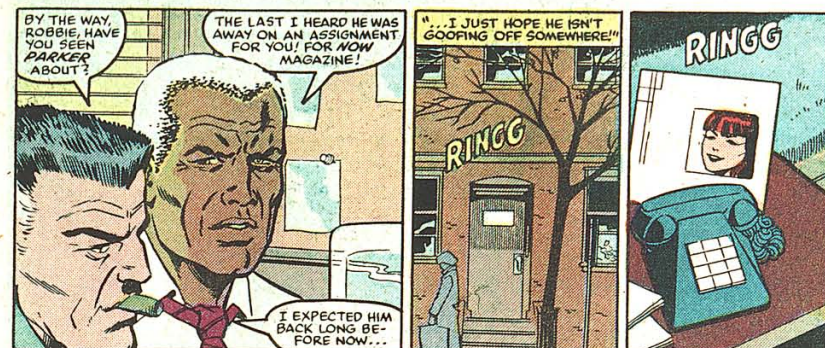
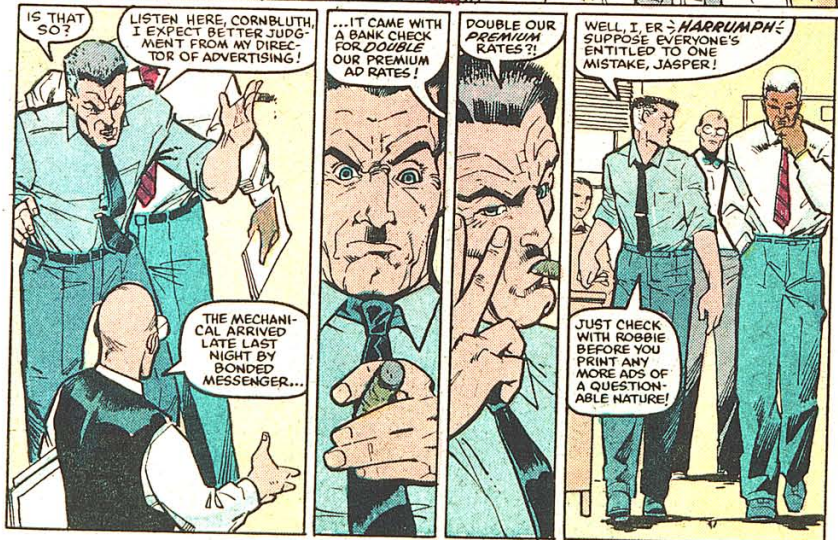
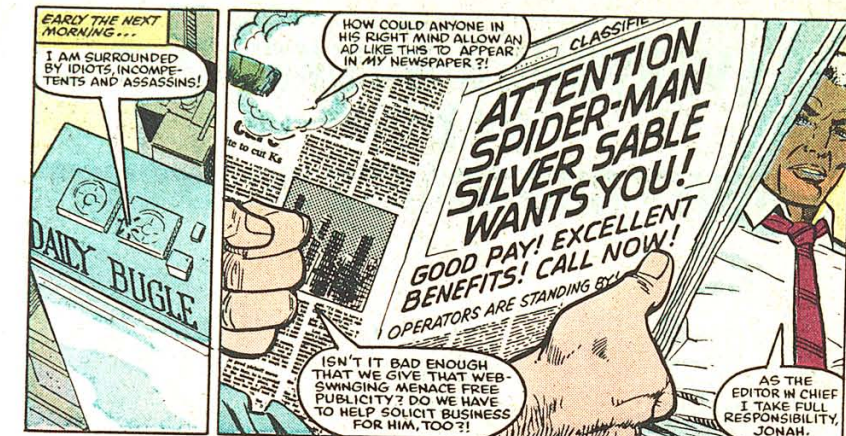
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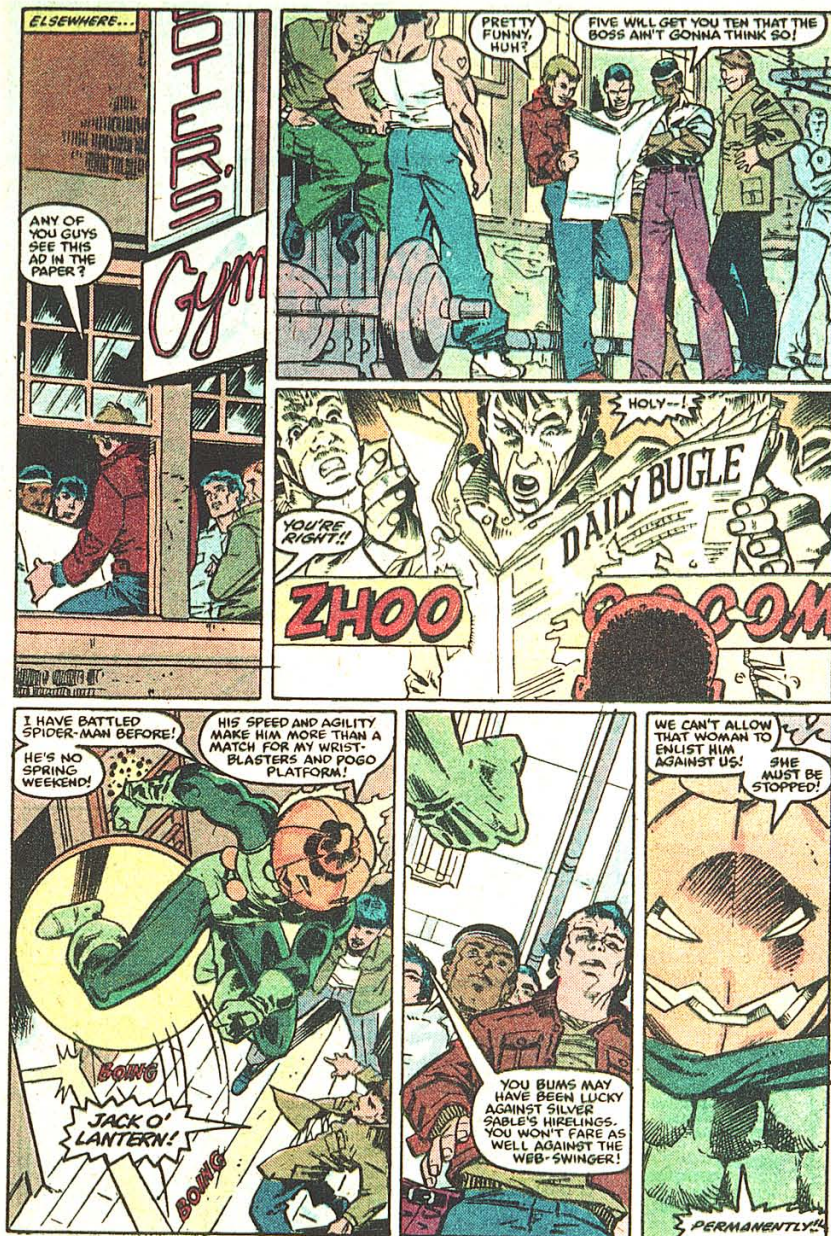
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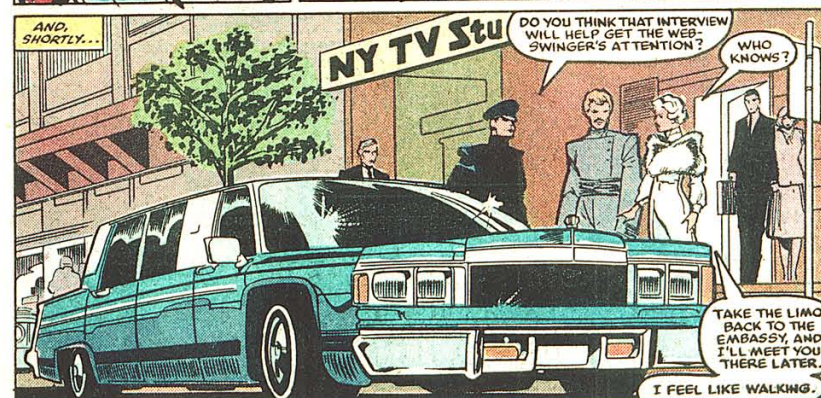
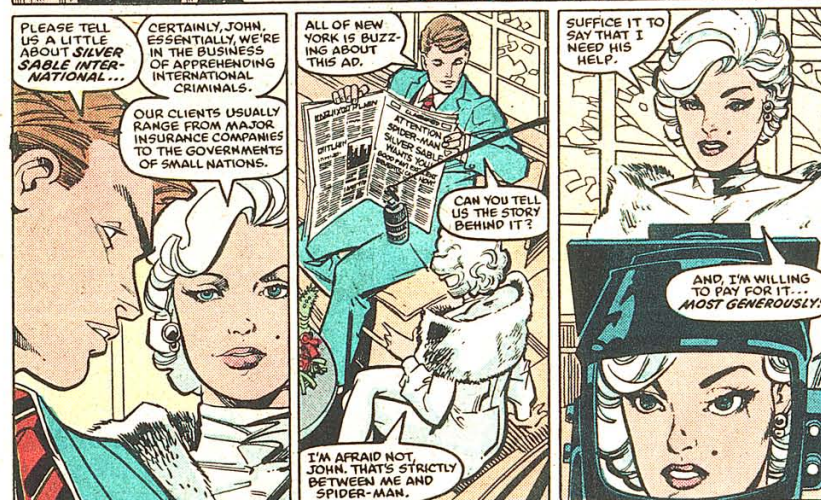
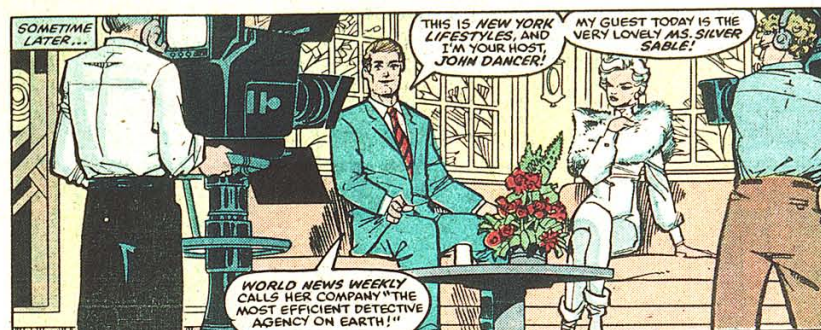
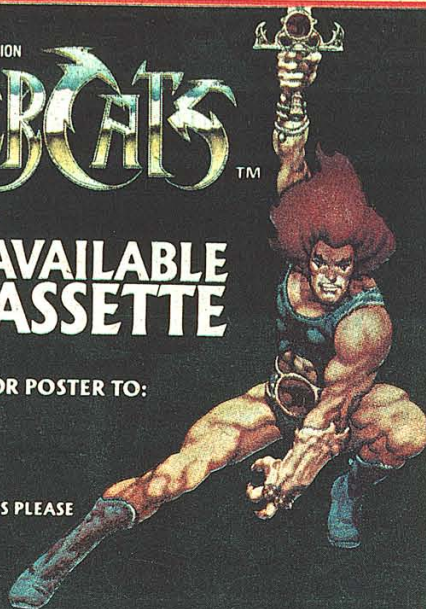
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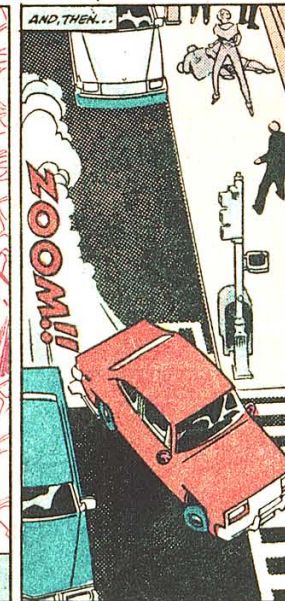
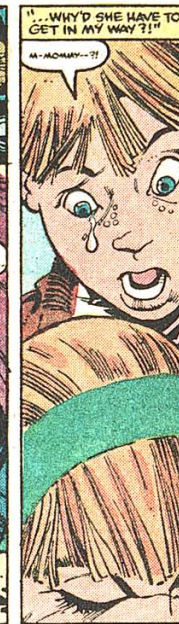
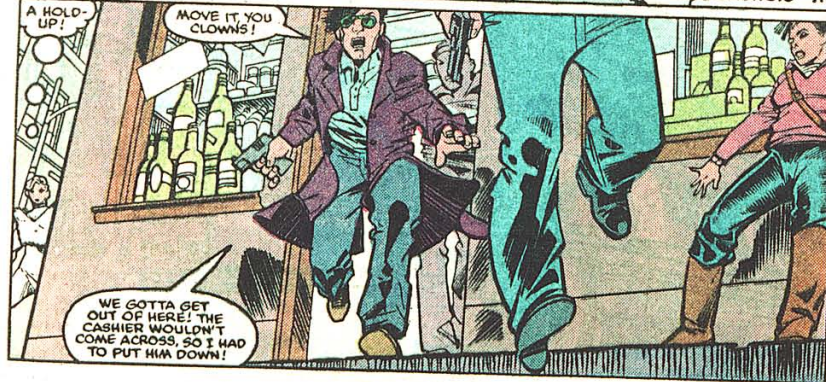
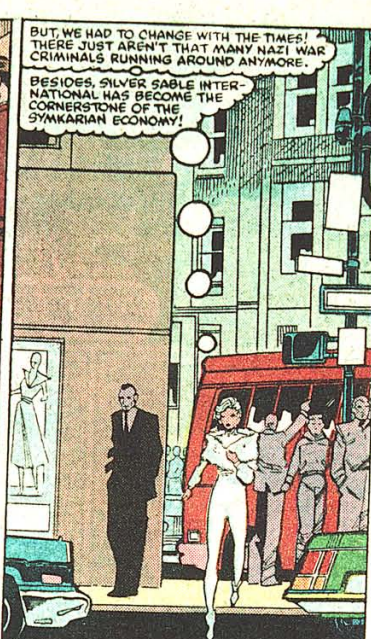
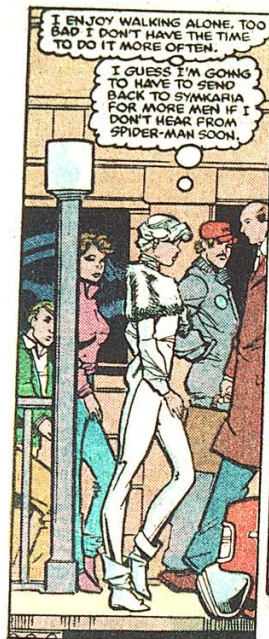
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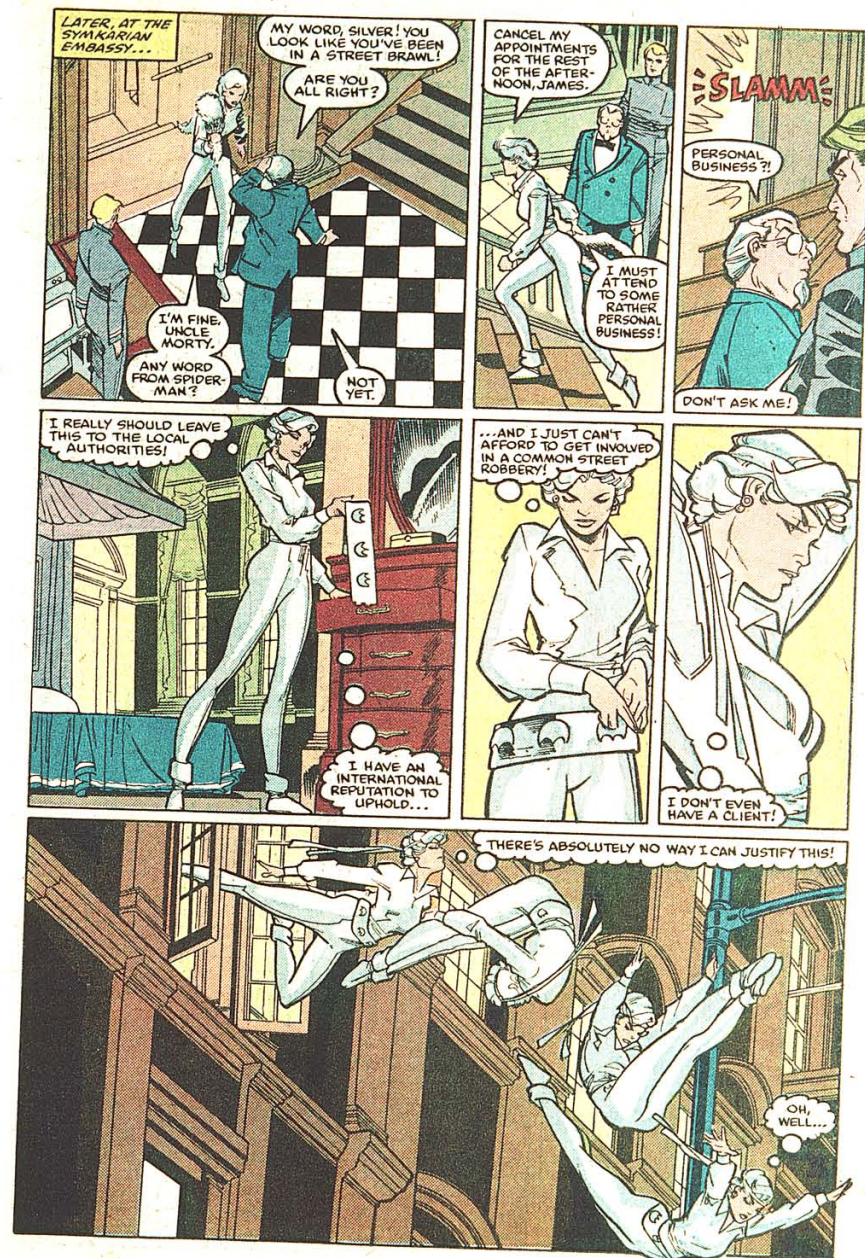
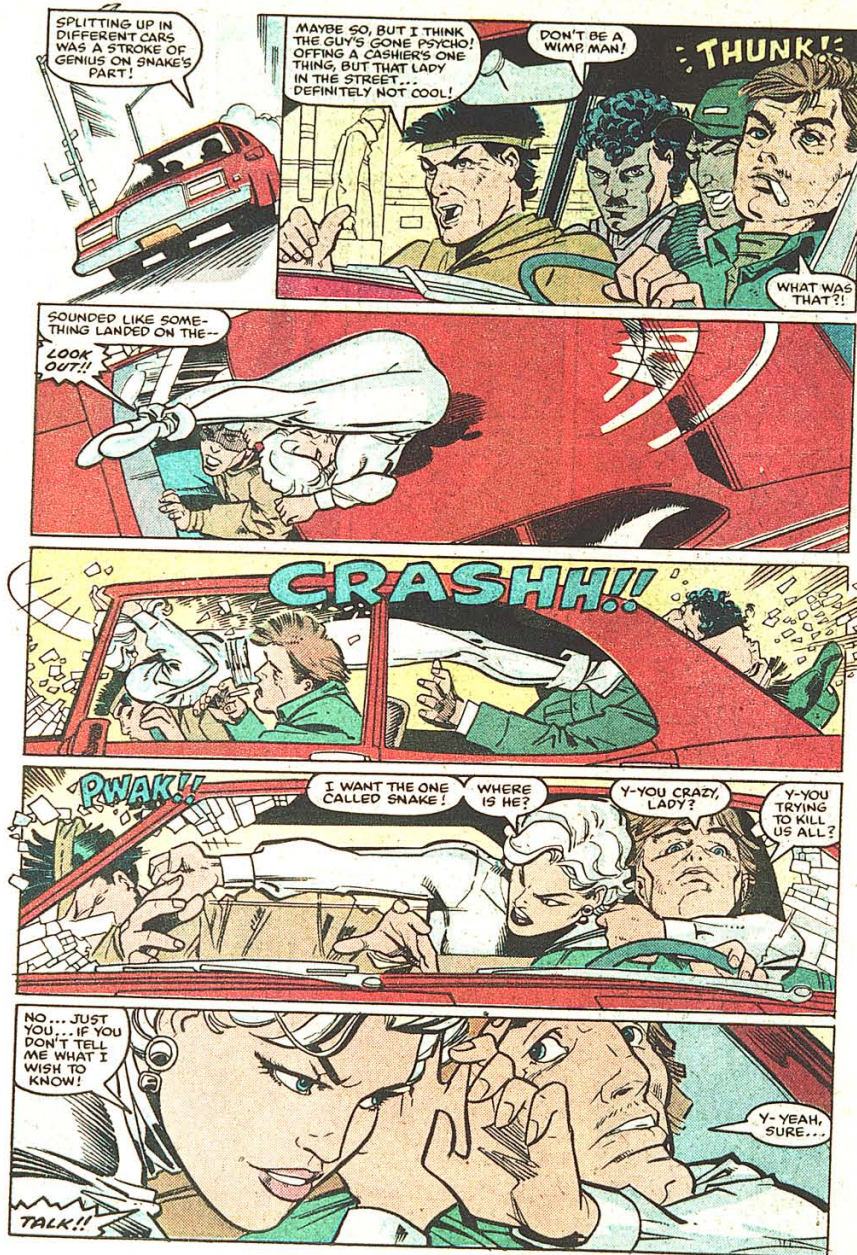
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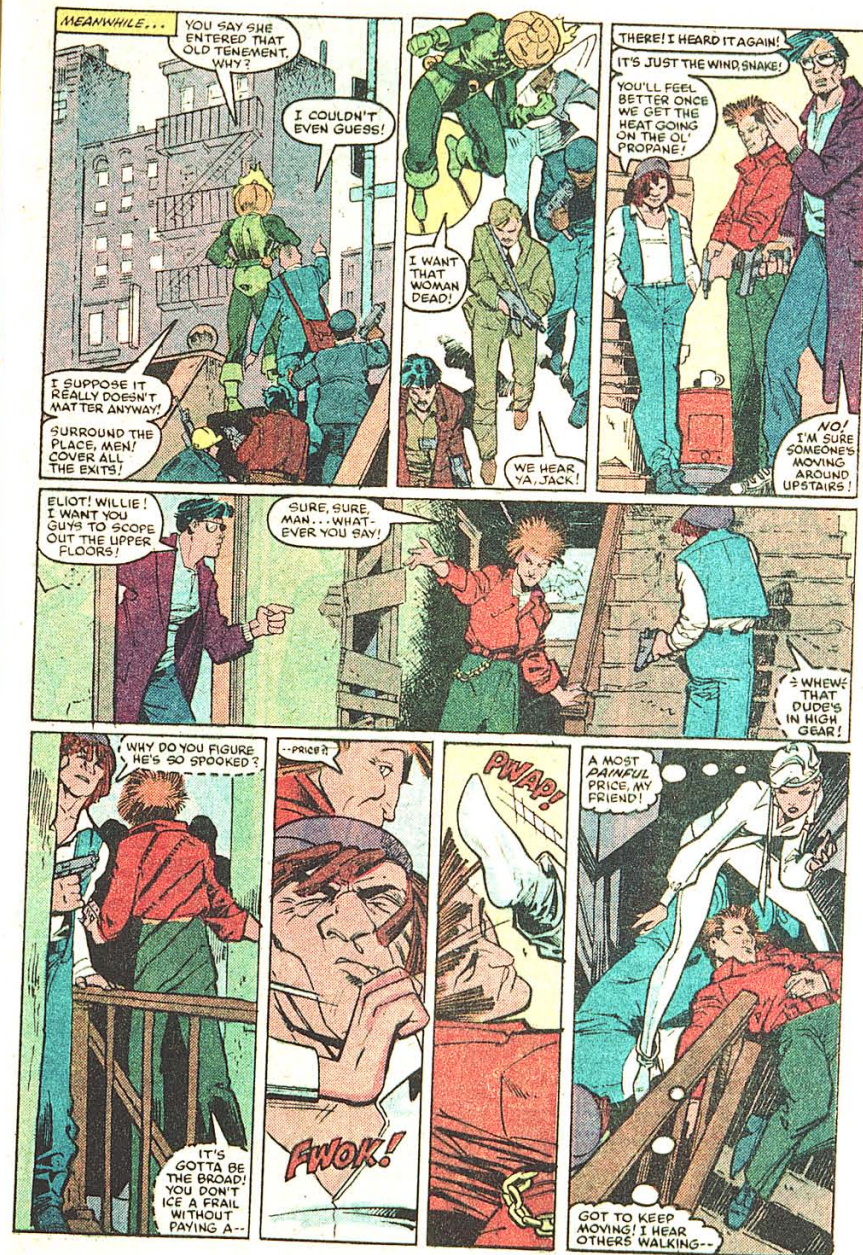
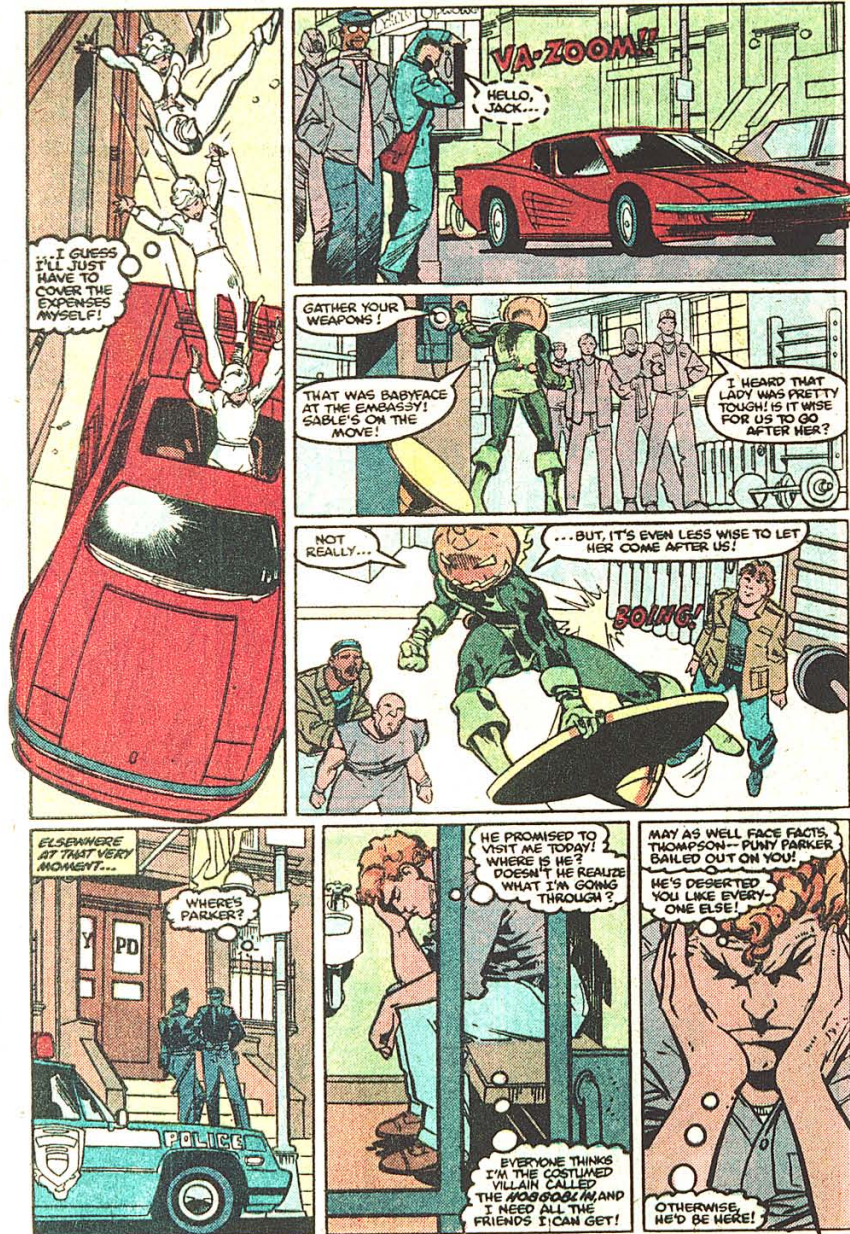
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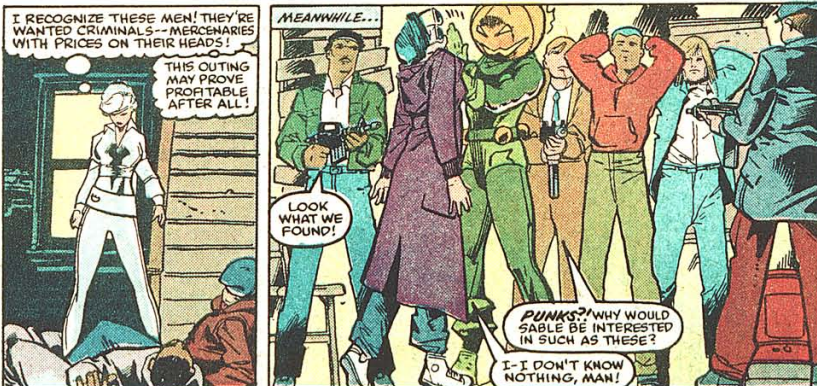


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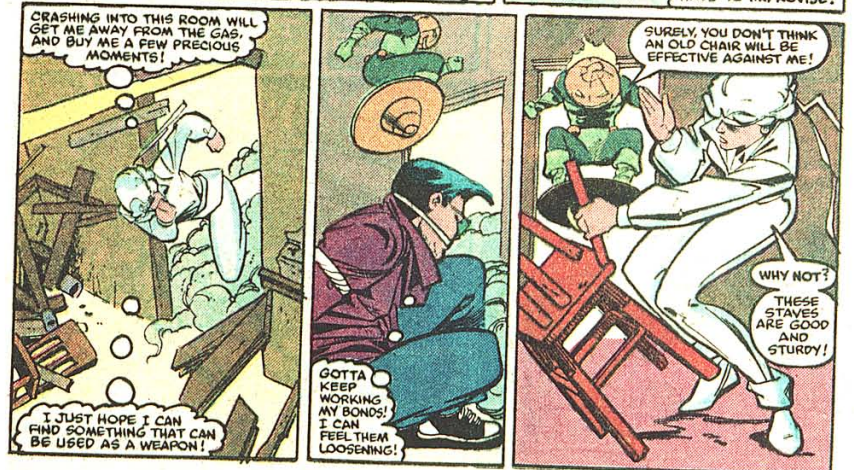
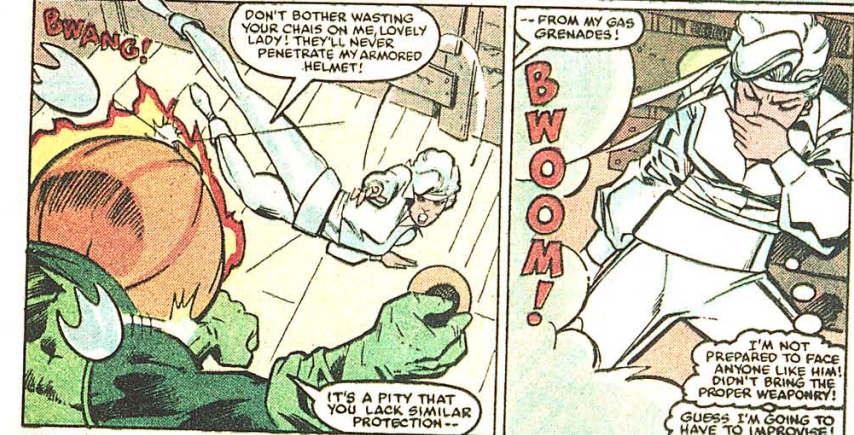
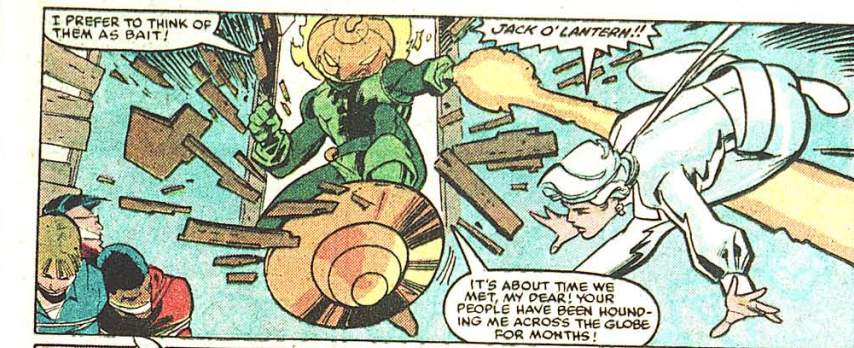
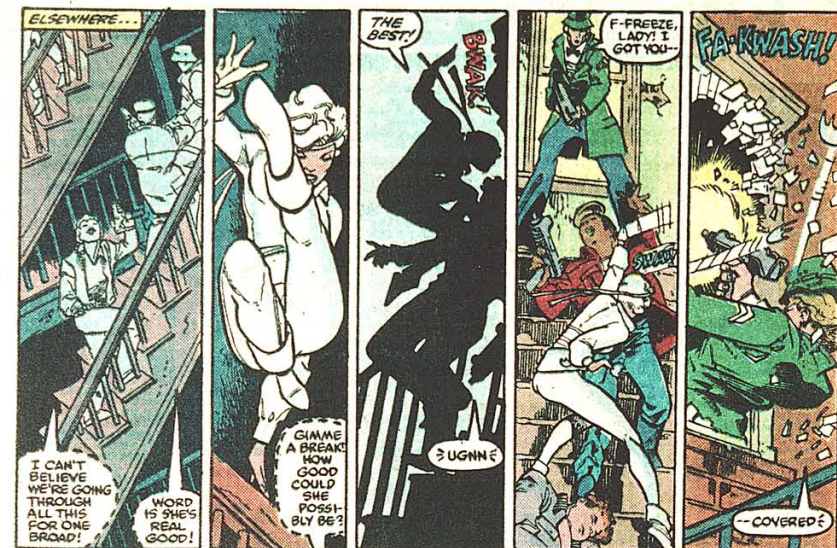


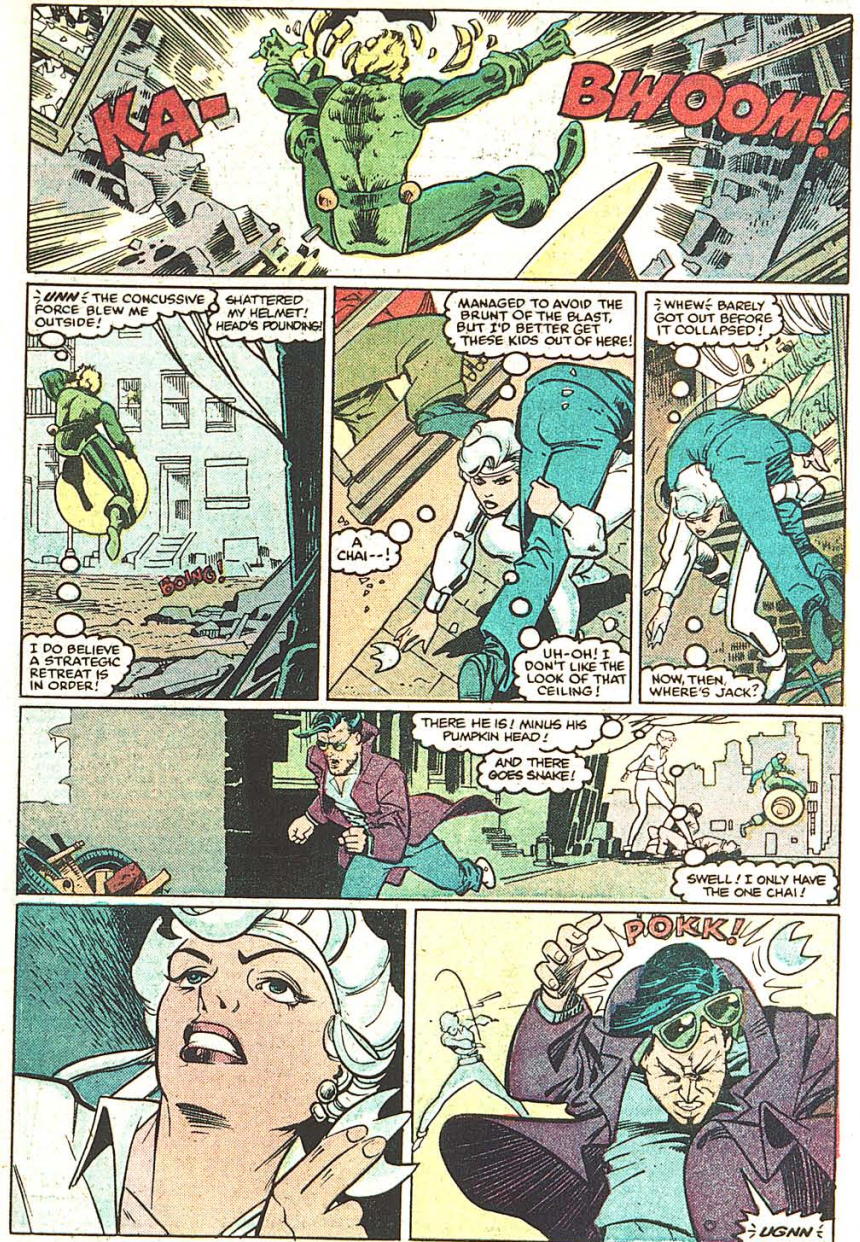
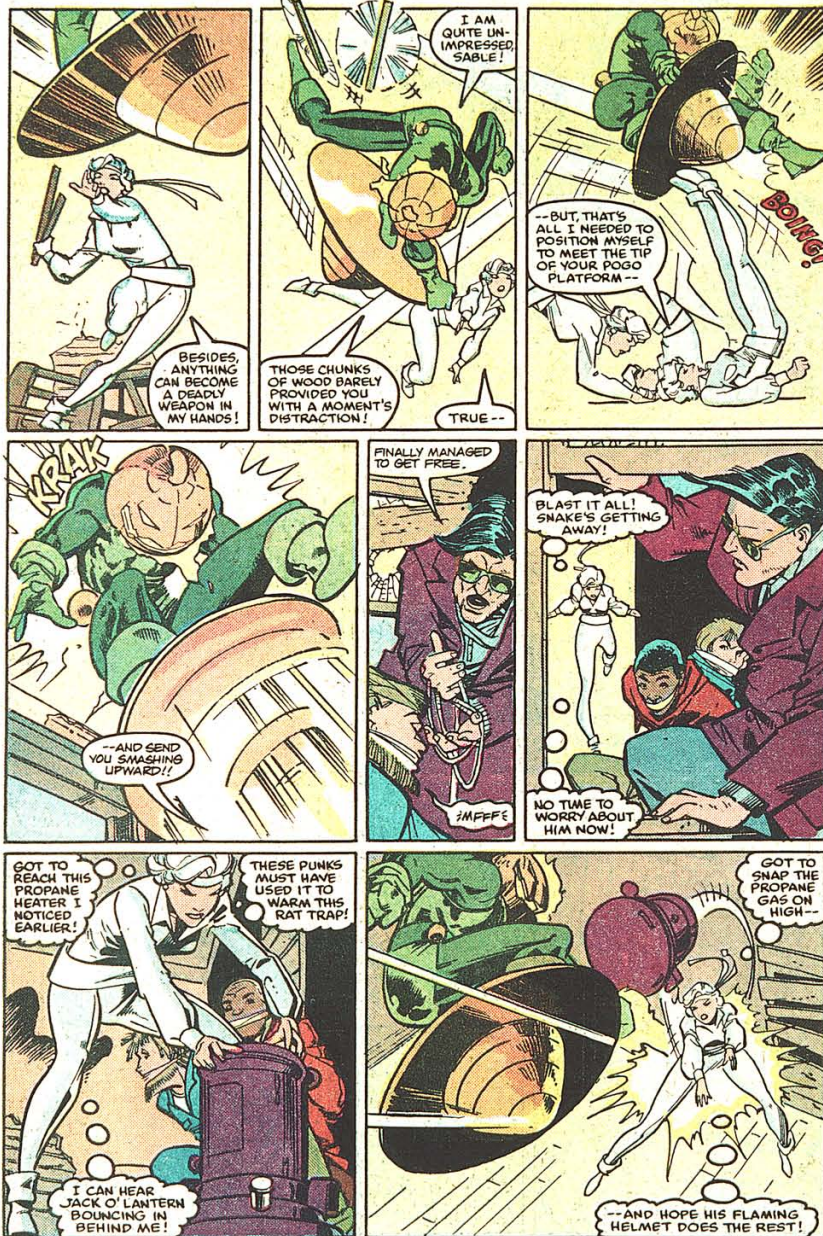


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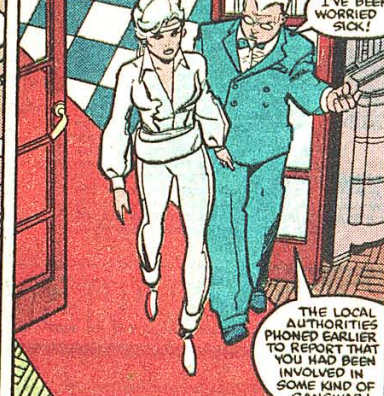
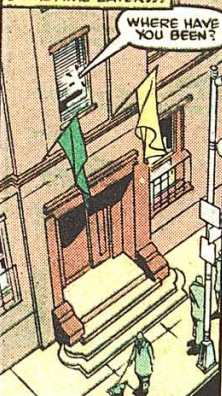
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WHEN THE AUTHORITIES ARRIVE
A FEW MINUTES LATER THEY
FIND SILVER SABLE STILL STAND-
ING OVER THE UNCONSCIOUS
SNAKE...

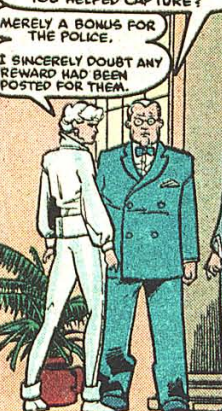
BOTH OF HIS HANDS HAVE BEEN
BROKEN, AND HIS FACE IS
COVERED WITH SNAKE.



SOMETIME LATER...

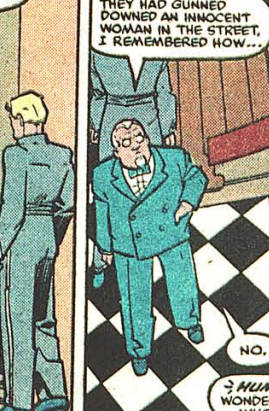


WHAT ABOUT THAT STREET GANG
YOU HELPED CAPTURE?



MERELY A BONUS FOR
THE POLICE.

WHEN I HEARD THAT
THEY HAD GUNNED
DOWN AN INNOCENT
WOMAN IN THE STREET,
I REMEMBERED HOW...



BULLPEN BULLETINS



STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX...

... will be appearing in *Marvel Age* every month beginning with issue #41, which is on sale now. Before I say more about that, first let me tell you a little story...

ONCE UPON A TIME...

I was at a party at Stan's house way up in the Hollywood Hills. It was getting late, the festivities were winding down, and we found ourselves standing on his front porch looking down at the lights of Los Angeles, chatting about the biz. Suddenly, I had one of those strange feelings—I don't know what to call it—a Profound Revelation? A Meaningful Insight? A Moment of Awareness? Anyway, after a brief silence, I said, "Stan, I can't believe that I... am here at Stan Lee's house... just hanging out! I mean, you've been one of my heroes since I was twelve!" Well, that embarrassed him a little, I think. He thanked me, and added that sometimes he couldn't believe all the great things that'd happened to him in the last twenty-five years. I guess he'd never expected to become a comics legend, creative head of a major animation studio, and an inspiration to a generation.

Steve Englehart once said, "... in many ways, Stan is the heart of us all," meaning the comics writers of today. He's right. Everyone at Marvel Comics, everyone in comics owes Stan a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid. With all due respect to Steve Ditko, Jack Kirby and the many other outstanding artists/co-creators with whom Stan worked in the states creating and building the Marvel Universe, I submit that without Stan Lee there would be no Marvel Comics today. Very likely, there would be no comics. Thanks largely to Stan, we have a place to bring forth our own imaginings, a firm foundation upon which to build, and, oh, by the way, he showed us how. Wow.

THEREFORE, I RECOMMEND...

... that you start picking up *Marvel Age* if you haven't already, and check out Stan's Soapbox. It's the same, famous no-holds-barred type of column that used to appear on this page years ago—words of wisdom, funny stuff, Pronouncements of Great Import to the Entire Comics Community, and who knows, maybe recipes. So pay attention, will ya.

Marvel Age can be purchased at comics shops or via subscription. There's a subscription ad elsewhere in this book. Stan is still the Man!

THE 1986 OVERSTREET PRICE GUIDE...

... celebrates Marvel Comics' 25th Anniversary with a special introduction by Stan Lee (him again!) and a special, somewhat more longwinded introduction by moi. It's the authority on back-issue prices of all comics and it can be found at comics shops and bookstores everywhere. \$10.95 per copy. No serious collector can afford to be without it.

OUT OF SPACE...

... so I'll have to wait till next month to reveal more about the New Universe.

Strive on!

Stan

Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

CHECKLIST

- ☐ DAKOTA NORTH #2—More high-flying adventures of Marvel's fearless female detective!
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #233—The unbelievable conclusion to the DD/Kingpin conflict!
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #42
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #17—Spidey disappears!
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #11—With Nick Fury!
- ☐ SQUADRON SUPREME (Limited Series) #12—The double-sized conclusion, featuring a battle you'll never forget!
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #37
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #279—Spidey's still missing!
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #320—The final fate of the Scourge!
- ☐ DOCTOR STRANGE #78
- ☐ VISION AND SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #11
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR INDEX #9—The real story about what happened in issues #148-169!
- ☐ POWER PACK #25—The double-sized finale to the Snark Wars!
- ☐ THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #9—Introducing everyone from Molecule Man to Phastos!
- ☐ AVENGERS #270
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #185

- ☐ ETERNALS (Limited Series) #11
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #322—Featuring both the East and West Coast Avengers!
- ☐ X-MEN #208
- ☐ MARVEL SAGA #9—Showcasing the origins of the Watcher, Doctor Octopus, the Kree-Skrull War, and lots more!
- ☐ G.I. JOE #50—Celebrate with this double-sized anniversary issue!
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #190
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #293
- ☐ IRON MAN #209
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #117—Uh oh, Spidey's not here, either! What happens?
- ☐ THOR #370—Introducing... Justice Peace!
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #10—Omega Supreme is here!
- ☐ X-FACTOR #7—Welcome new writer Louise Simonson!
- ☐ DOCTOR WHO #23

- ☐ MARVEL MAGAZINES
- ☐ MARVEL AGE #41—Special Stan Lee issue!
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #126

- ☐ EPIC COMICS
- ☐ MOONSHADOW (Limited Series) #8

- ☐ GROO THE WANDERER #18—Groo meets... Grooella?
- ☐ DREADSTAR #25—On trial!
- ☐ ELFOQUEST #13
- ☐ ALIEN LEGION #14—Beware the Hunter!

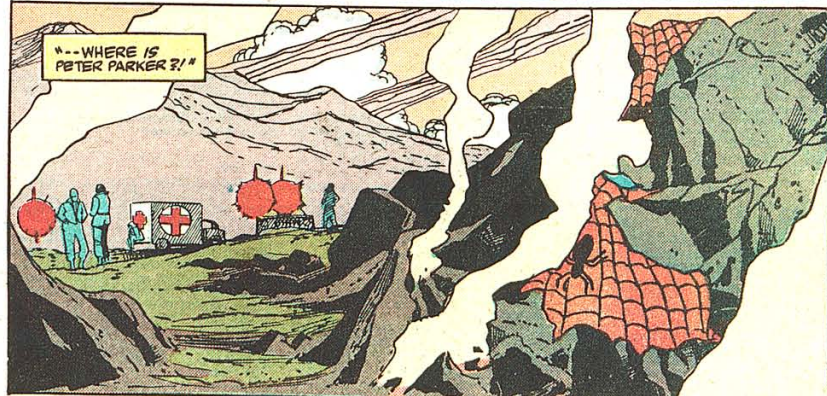
STAR COMICS

- ☐ MISTY (Limited Series) #5—With "Video Wars" and two more stories!
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-HAM #9
- ☐ THUNDERCATS #5—To rescue the ghost of Jagal!
- ☐ HEATHCLIFF #9—Caught in the middle of a wild mountain feud!
- ☐ DROID #3—Trapped with a dangerous space pirate!
- ☐ TOP DOG #9—Guest starring Heathcliff!

GRAPHIC NOVEL

- ☐ HOOKY—We couldn't hold it back any longer; it demanded to be released! And when you look inside, you'll see why human hands couldn't stop it! That's right, it's that monstrous Spider-Man adventure you've had nightmares about, and now it's coming for you! The screams are on SUSANK PUTNEY (writer) and BERNI WRIGHTSON (artist)! Don't say we didn't warn you!

EPILOGUE: HOURS LATER, AS THE PEOPLE OF TEMPLE CORNERS, VIRGINIA, GATHER BEHIND NATIONAL GUARD BARRICADES TO WATCH THEIR FUTURE SNOLDER AND FACE...





THE SPIDER'S WEB

JAMES C. OWSLEY
EDITOR

ADAM BLAUSTEIN
ADAM BLAUSTEIN
EDITOR

VIEW FROM THE TENTH FLOOR

Since announcing this month's "MISSING IN ACTION" series of Spider-Man (aka: "WHERE IS SPIDER-MAN?"), I've received a number of complaints from misinformed readers who accused us of plagiarizing a popular breakfast cereal's recent advertising campaign. This cereal, whose spokesman is a retired Naval captain, recently held a contest precipitated by the aforementioned Naval captain's sudden disappearance. "Aha!" you say, "a patriotic 'emerge' in the interest of total disclosure, I would like to map out the main differences between our neighborhood webslinger and this Naval captain."

Spider-Man doesn't wear a funny hat. Or a moustache. His nose is considerably smaller than the captain's. He doesn't sail around in circles on a condemned wooden galleon with a bunch of kids. Kids who never go to school. Kids with buck teeth. Kids this stupid follow teachers bad english to they had to call him "Cap'n". And, in addition to the fact the product Spider-Man represents won't give you tooth decay. I challenge you to roll up a bowl of cereal and stick it in your back pocket.

There, I think I've fairly covered this matter. As for "WHERE IS SPIDER-MAN..."? you'll find out in WEB #18. I still don't know where the cap'n is.

James C. Owsley



SEND ALL LETTERS TO:
Marvel Comics Group,
387 Park Avenue South,
New York, N.Y. 10016.
Please include your name
and address. We will,
however, withhold them
upon request.

Dear Spider-people,
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #275 is probably the greatest Spider-Man comic book ever published. The artwork was typically fantastic, but the story was absolutely phenomenal. It was the definitive Spider-Man comic. If I were to suggest one comic for new readers to read to learn what

Yo, Marvel Dude!
Bogus deal! What's my beef, man? Well, in AMAZING #275 the Kingpin puts your loyal Spidey fans in the dust when he starts buzzing on the face beneath the Rose's mask. What a spook! Like who is the Rose? I'm left dreaming. Any hints?

Uh-oh, surf's up! Gotta go!

D.J.S.

Somewhere off the coast of Florida

Don't wanna flake you out, D.J.S., but you're gonna have to glide on this totally tubular concept: the dude's identity is like a secret, man! Please don't ask us to go bogus on him! (WHEW!) Could someone please translate that for us?

Dear Web-Slingers,
Issue #275 marked the 15th year and 7th month of me cosplaying the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN. This is my first letter to you my friends of Marvel. Not only am I constantly "amazed" by the growth in Peter and Spidey through the years, I have been enthralled with the Hobgoblin from his conception to now. I hope he's not Flash Thompson, Ned Leeds, or Lance Bannion (or, as a thought, too stunning to conceive, Joe Robertson) because he could be unless you guys come up with a superb explanation. After all, Hobby's obviously wealthy, influential, and in his late 30s to early 40s.

Before I go, I'd like to tell you how much I loved the first page of issue #275. You posed Hobby exactly (more or less) like the Green Goblin on page one of issue #39. This page alone instills many things, such as proof that Hobby is now a truly legendary foe, the history of Spidey has come full circle, and that you guys at Marvel have a loving respect for the value of Spider-Man's past like I do.

Eddie Roberts
86 Vandam St.
New York, NY

Keep the faith, Eddie! The best is yet to come! And, we hope we don't have to wait another fifteen years and seven months before we hear from you again.

Dear Marvel Bullpen,
Although I have been an Amazing Spider-fan for ten years, I have never felt compelled to write you until now. You will soon decide which costume Spidey will keep. To eliminate the original red and blue costume would be an unforgivable crime against humanity. It would be like trying to change Captain America's costume. Impossible!

On the 2nd panel of the 14th page of story in AMAZING #276, we see a very impressive picture of Spider-Man in his red and blue costume as he says, "I can't change the way I am."

If he can't, why should you?

James D. Kalb

3184 Mt. View Drive
Danville, VA 24038

The question of which costume Spidey's going to keep is currently being resolved in the sage which began in WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #16 and #17, includes this issue of AMAZING, PETER PARKER #117, and concludes in WEB #18. Just a warning, James... you probably won't like the final resolution, but, hopefully, you'll love the ride to it. (By the way, fans of the old red and blue costume can always catch a glimpse of it in our friendly neighborhood Star Comic, PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-HAM.)

Amazing Spider-Man #275 is probably the greatest Spider-Man comic book ever published. The artwork was typically fantastic, but the story was absolutely phenomenal. It was the definitive Spider-Man comic. If I were to suggest one comic for new readers to read to learn what

Spidey's all about, AMAZING #275 would be it. It had all the elements of a classic Spidey yarn. I really loved seeing all of the gang in action again. One thing that has always made Spider-Man unique is the role of the supporting cast. This element has been sorely missing the past few years, and I hope we are seeing a change for the better in issue 275.

I also loved seeing so much of Mary Jane Watson. She has been around a lot lately, and I hope something serious develops between her and Peter in the near future. I just hope the presence of the Black Cat in PPTSSM won't get in the way of PP and MJ.

Gary O'Neal
Athens, GA

We're afraid that the Black Cat has a few plans of her own, Gary. Keep watching PPTSSM for details.

To Whomever,
I have not read issue #276 yet, but through some very careful, thorough research, I have finally pieced together solid evidence of the Hobgoblin's identity.

The Hobgoblin is the spirit of Uncle Ben living in the body of Bart Hamilton, who was resurrected by the ghost of Professor Miles Warren, who took over the body of Gwen Stacy's clone, thanks to the aid of Norman Osborn's other son, Richard, who financed the entire project, after being blackmailed by Mary Jane, who is in actuality Peter Parker's long-lost sister.

Do I get a No-prize?

David Short
8515 Main St. #101
Edmonds, WA 98020

No, David. You get a padded room, and a nifty new white jacket that ties in the back.

Dear Marvel Madhouse and gang!
Come on, guy! A little more romance between Mary Jane and Peter! They haven't kissed each other for quite some time now. It's bad enough that Spidey feels guilty about everything else around him, at least he should feel proud to have his girl by his side.

Anthony Rodriguez
33883 Alvarado Niles Road #2
Union City, CA 94587

Whoever said Mary Jane was Peter's girl? Last time we checked with the lady herself, she claimed to be a swinging single with no attachments. Of course, that could change in the future...

Dear Gents,
I would like to see a fight between Spidey and Wolverine.

Salem Ferguson

You just may get your wish this summer, Salem. Our current plans call for a 64 page special extravaganza which will team up the ol' wall-crawler and the man with the claws. How's that for service?

Dear Editor:
AMAZING #275 was, simply put, amazing. One could tell the whole crew must have worked overtime on this one. The pics of Peter and M.J., and the Hobgoblin are superb.

The story was great! I can hardly wait to find out the identity of the Hobgoblin. I already think he is Ned Leeds, but I'm not going to bet the house and kids quite yet. You have a sneaky way of leading a person to believe one thing when it's really another.

Rob Moore
2548 Michael Ln.
Maumee, OH 43537

Gosh, Rob, do you really think we'd do a sleazy thing like that?

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66, 69, 70, 76-80, 85, 88,
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116, 75c;
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SAVAGE SWORD
OF CONAN
61, 75-87, 90, 92-94, 96-
100, 102-107, 110-125,
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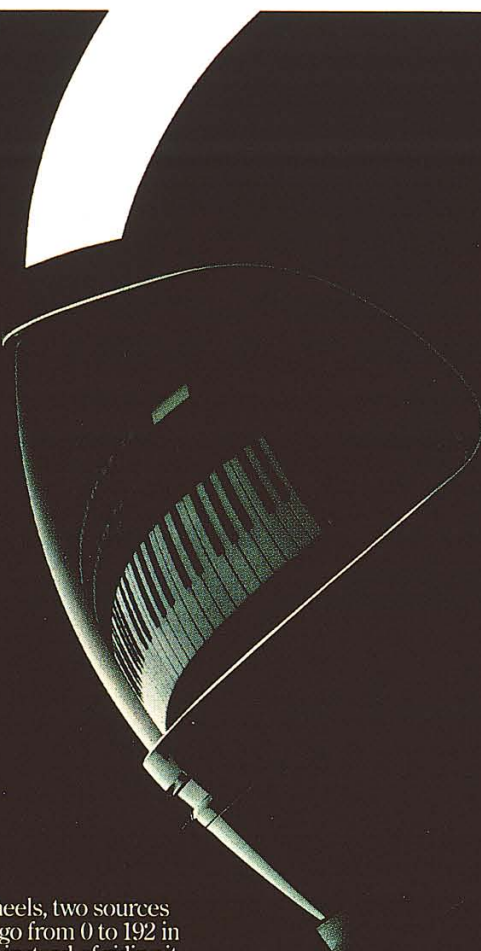


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